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“Water Pollution in the Southeast”

Today in the United States there are many problems and water pollution is one of them. Water pollution is horrible all over the United States. In the south water pollution is horrible in some places. In Mobile there are some places that are horrifying such as the Mobile Bay, some rivers, and the Gulf of Mexico. These places are constantly being polluted. If you drive on the bay way or cause way and just look into the water there is an abundance of trash. People use it like the garbage can. The most common types of water pollution in Mobile and the South are sediment run-off, trash, and oil spills.

The most common type of water pollution is waste and sediment run off. Some of the most common types of sediment run off come from rain water. The sediment from the streets, rooftops, and dirt pits soon flows into rivers, the bays, and oceans. This can cause the water to change colors and become muddy. Therefore it can put chemicals into the water and can get into the wildlife’s food chain. “As the runoff flows over the land or impervious surfaces (paved streets, parking lots, and building rooftops), it accumulates debris, chemicals, sediment or other pollutants that could adversely affect water quality if the runoff is discharged untreated” (“Stormwater Runoff”). However the Black Warrior Riverkeeper is a group of people that have gotten together and decided to increase their focus on construction storm water issues to address muddy water runoff that is harming our streams, wildlife habitat, property, and drinking water (“Stormwater Runoff”).

Water pollution is getting worse in Mobile Bay. Every time I seem to go over the bay way or to my bay house I see more and more trash. Where the Alabama River meets Mobile Bay is a huge shipping channel. Up and down the shipping channel are places where the boats load up all sorts of stuff such as crates, coal, wood, and many more things. These boats are spilling out gas, oil, and other chemicals into the river, which then flows into the Bay how ever run offs such as little creeks are all up and down the channel. If you head up the Alabama River a little bit there is a creek called Three Mile Creek. Water that comes from the creek then goes into the river then the bay. It is a nasty creek and has trash from the start of it to the end of it. The Prichard Paper Mill is on this creek and all the chemicals run into the creek. As the chemicals from these boats and the mill flow into the river and bay it causes harm for our city and country. Sea food comes from the bay and the gulf. If chemicals are getting into these fish and wild life it could make them have diseases and it could end up hurting us or killing us.

During the summer of 2010 in the Gulf of Mexico an oil rig exploded. When it happened it caused 4.9 million barrels of oil to flow into the south coast (“Greater New Orleans”). BP has over 4.5 billion dollars to pay to the people (“Greater New Orleans”). “Studies show that more than 82,000 birds; about 6,000 sea turtles; nearly 26,000 marine mammals, including dolphins; and an unknown, massive number of fish and invertebrates may have been harmed by the spill and its aftermath”(“Gulf Disaster”). It is probably one of the worst types of water pollutions that could happen. It caused many fish and birds to die and ruined some people’s businesses. The oil got into the food system for the fish and caused a lot of them to die. Shrimpers couldn’t use their shrimp boats because of the oil spill and many of them lost their job.

Water pollution is slowly destroying the world. If everybody threw trash in the trash can and not on the road or in the water then it would be one step better. We could also have groups that go out on to the beaches and pick up trash. These types of water pollutions are deadly and could destroy world. If water pollution keeps getting worse then it could kill a lot of the fish and wild life that live next to these waters.

Works Cited

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